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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Spain

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SUBJECT Tendency toward Centralization of the
Parties of Spain

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25X1A

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SUPPLEMENT

ORIGIN

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letter of 16 October 1975 from the
Director of Central Intelligence to the
Archivist of the United States.
Review Date: 2008

1. At the last plenary session of the Spanish Communist Party, held in March 1947, the report of Secretary General Dolores Ibarruri, as well as the remarks of Antonio Mije (member of the Political Bureau in charge of studying regionalism in Spain and of directing Party policy in this aspect) and of Juan Comorera (Secretary General of the Partido Socialista Unificado Catalana - PSUC) indicated a desire for organic unity. The Communist press reported that the PSUC would work to that end.

2. By the end of June 1947, the "Galician Section" of the Spanish Communist Party, as the group of Galician Communists working in Mexico was called had disappeared. The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Spain, which until recently had allowed those Communists to maintain, at least verbally, an autonomous section, apparently has reversed this policy.

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3. Enrique Lister and other leaders of the Spanish Communists, for tactical reasons, they were working to get the Communists of the various regions of Spain into a single party or at least to place them under one political leadership for all of Spain. The Communist leaders said, however, that no definitive step in that direction would be taken in the immediate future, and that for the time being the limit would be the adoption of a policy of "permanent close contact" between the political bureaus of the regional Communist Parties.

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4. in general, the Communists are slow to change because their habit of thorough analysis of a situation is a process involving initiative, study, proposal and acceptance of political theses, and also because the ponderous party machine, once upset, demands work and time to start it in another direction. What is disturbing about the Communists is not rapidity of action but total change of viewpoint. This indication of a certain flexibility in their conceptions, as seen from a non-Communist point of view, becomes less significant when one takes into account the fact that except for certain very limited doctrinary points, what appears to the non-Communist as a principle is to the Communist only a tactical position.

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NO CHANGE in Class. []

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-2-

5. The Communist policy at the moment is to continue in the Llopi's Government to prevent at all costs the total abandonment of the thesis of republican legality. Their insurrectional policies have a double purpose: to undermine the franquist regime and to win over to communism the Anarchist and Socialist masses; they encourage mass movements in places where communism is widespread and direct such activities according to the Communist line as far as possible. They attempt to monopolize the resistance movement and to control the organized groups of active resisters. Although little is said abroad about the Consejo Nacional de la Resistencia, the Communists inside Spain are active in its promotion and are carefully preparing the role they intend to play when coordination or unification of resistance is achieved.

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Comment: Since this report was written, the Llopi's cabinet has been dissolved.

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